

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

. In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of July 23, 2008 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to specify that the printheads print on both faces of non-coated print media and the drier means transports the printed non-coated media directly from the printer for drying. Support for these amendments can be found at page 7, lines 10-19 of the present specification; and

dependent claims 2 and 15 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application, nor any new issues to the prosecution of the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2 and 15 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by Koike in view of newly cited Kupcho et al. (US 5,670,995), for at least the following reasons.

As previously argued by the Applicant, Koike specifically discloses that the recording material 62 has a back coating layer underneath the ink receiving layer which improves conveyance of the recording material and simplifies the structure of the recording material (see paragraph [0073]).

Thus, there is no motivation from the disclosure of Koike for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the disclosed arrangement of Koike to have ink receiving layers on both faces of the recording material and therefore to have a heating and drying section for both faces of the recording material.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art would not combine Koike and Kupcho in the manner asserted by the Examiner.

Having said this, the Applicant has further amended independent claim 1 to specify that the printer and drier means of the claimed invention prints and dries non-coated print media. Accordingly, the claimed invention is further distinguished from Koike, either taken alone or in combination with Kupcho, because Koike is specifically directed to printing coated or laminated media (see paragraphs [0050]-[0076]).

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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